

WASHINGTON.

The War on the Civil Service Reform Policy.

REPUBLICANS STRAINING IN THE LEASH.

A Moral Pointed by Anderson's Retention in Office.

THE TOLEDO POSTMASTERSHIP.

How False Charges Were Concocted Against Mr. Reed.

The Long Bond Bill Passed by the Senate.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1878.

ANDERSON'S RETENTION IN OFFICE—REPUBLICANS EAGER TO ATTACK THE PRESIDENT'S CIVIL SERVICE REFORM POLICY.

Mr. Blackburn, of Kentucky, will not present the resolution he had prepared inquiring whether the President was, in violation of law, keeping a convicted felon in a federal office. It is understood, however, that other persons are making ready a somewhat more elaborate resolution of inquiry on the same subject, which will route all the circumstances of the Anderson case and go into that of other appointments also. This resolution will be introduced early next week, if opportunity can be obtained, and there is an impression that it may lead to a general discussion of civil service reform and of the character of the President's appointments, in which, if it once gets underway, republicans will take part and air their numerous grievances. It has been understood for some time that a number of eminent republicans in both houses have been waiting impatiently for the promised civil service message of the President, intending to open a fierce fire on him at once. If the republicans ever make a general and public exhibition of their sorrows the country will have something more amusing to read than the silver debate. Hitherto this show has been extremely private, being held in the executive sessions, and those who profess to know say that the discussions in these secret sessions have been as deeply interesting and as full of piquant scandal as the most successful country tea party.

ALEXANDER REED AGAIN NOMINATED FOR THE TOLEDO POSTMASTERSHIP—HIS CONFIRMATION PROBABLE—HOW FALSE CHARGES AGAINST HIM WERE CONCOCTED.

The President sent to-day for the third time the name of Alexander Reed to be Postmaster of Toledo. Mr. Reed will stand a better chance of confirmation now than on previous occasions, because an investigation by the Post Office Department has just disclosed that Dowling, the Postmaster whom he was to succeed, not only maliciously brought false charges against Reed, but deliberately got up a false case against him, using three of his clerks to make oath to statements which, if not entirely false, were worse, for they deceived by telling half truths. A dispatch received here to-day says that Special Agent Henry's examination of three clerks entirely vindicated Mr. Reed's honesty. They had made affidavits which Mr. Dowling brought before the Senate committee and which produced on the committee the impression that Reed had taken money from them dishonestly and put it in his own pocket. The Post Office agent discovered that Mr. Dowling had deceived Mr. Reed by handing him a false payroll. The agent reports that Mr. Dowling undertook to worm out of the three clerks by saying that they were simply memorandums of his idea of what Mr. Reed should pay the clerks. He admitted that he was furnished in response to Mr. Reed's request for a copy of his last payroll, and it was furnished on a regular post office blank. The clerks admitted that Mr. Dowling informed them that he had raised their wages, and that under Mr. Reed they would get the same noted on the raised payroll. After a searching examination of John Kleg, one of the clerks who made the sham affidavits, Special Agent Henry informed him that his dishonesty in this matter was so great that he was unfit to remain in the government service, and asked him if he knew of any good reason why he should not step down at once. Captain Henry has made a full report to the Post Office Department, which will be laid before the Senate Post Office Committee probably at its meeting to-morrow. The trick of Dowling is certainly most despicable and indecent.

MR. GARFIELD'S REPLY TO MR. KELLEY.

General Garfield replied to-day to Mr. Kelley's tirade of yesterday and made a remarkably able and manly speech. Besides which he so severely and effectively handled poor Mr. Kelley that the general opinion this evening is that Mr. Kelley will never lift up his voice again in the House. The exposure would have been regarded as cruel had not Mr. Kelley himself provoked it, and had he not alienated his friends in the House by the habit of abusing others for what, as Mr. Garfield to-day showed, he had done himself.

THE LATEST VETO.

The veto of the bill directing a special court to be held in the Mississippi lumber region has been the approval of some of the soundest lawyers of both parties in both houses. These say that to grant such a request in this case is to set a dangerous precedent for the future and that no special legislation of this kind is prudent.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1878.

THE VENEZUELA AWARDS—PROTEST FROM INDOLENT HOLDERS OF CLAIMS.

A new complication in the Venezuela awards dispute was developed in the presentation of a petition to-day by Senator Randolph, of New Jersey, protesting, on behalf of certain bankers, against the reopening of the case by Congress. These bankers represent that they have bought certain claims against Venezuela after adjudication and allowance of the same by the commission appointed by the treaty, and that the reopening of the case would be a violation of the treaty, and that the value of the claims would be thereby depreciated. To undo the work of the commission and to abrogate the treaty would therefore suspend or nullify the value of these claims and work great injustice to the bankers who bought them in good faith. The petition was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1878.

THE TARIFF BILL—DUTIES ON WOOL.

The Ways and Means Committee to-day considered the rate of tax on wool, and made the following amendments:—The duty upon wool of the first and second classes, which shall be imported washed, shall be twice the amount of duty to which it would be subjected if imported unwashed; and the duty upon wool of all classes, which shall be imported unwashed, shall be three times the duty to which it would be subjected if imported unwashed; and the duty upon wool of the sheep or hair of the Alpaca goat and other animals, which shall be imported as any other than the ordinary condition as now and heretofore practiced or which shall be changed in his character or condition for the purpose of evading the duty or which shall be reduced in value by the admixture of dirt or any other foreign substance shall be twice the duty to which it would be otherwise subjected. The bill also provides that the value of wool of the first class, the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported to the United States, excluding charges in said port, shall be over 10 cents and not

over 32 cents or less a pound, 10 cents a pound; wool of the same class, the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported to the United States, excluding charges in said port, shall be over 32 cents a pound, 12 cents a pound.

THE LOSS OF THE HURON—ANALYSIS OF THE EVIDENCE TAKEN AT THE COURT OF INQUIRY BY SARGENT GENERAL PALMER.

A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, accompanied by an analysis of the evidence taken at the court of inquiry on the loss of the United States steamer Huron, by Sargents General James C. Palmer, were sent to the Senate to-day. It is the opinion of the court that, with due caution and circumspection, the loss of the Huron to the coast would have been manifest. This opinion is not to be discredited, even if it were shown that the evidence is to that of this high court, but happily it is a sound fact in the record and a settled rule of evidence. The account given of the navigator's mouth in broken passages as well as they could be recalled proves that while Carriack Light remained in sight the navigator was constantly taking bearings and keeping the lead going. Moreover, Ouellet Engineer Edgar J. Wharburg testified that during his watch, from eight P. M. until midnight, the engines were stopped three times for soundings; once between nine and ten o'clock, again about eleven and a third time about two minutes before twelve o'clock. According to Mr. Young's account between the buoy and soundings on his line there being the Court was right, and left at half-past six P. M. from eleven to fourteen and a half fathoms, and at half-past ten P. M. exactly fourteen fathoms. At this point the navigator is supposed to have left Carriack Light; here it ceased to be any longer available. It is not merely a just inference, but an unavoidable conclusion, that he took bearings of Carriack Light to the last. In conclusion Mr. Palmer says:—

"We ask no more than a careful comparison of the evidence with the finding of the Court."

THE NEW ENGLAND RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE—TESTIMONY IN DEFENSE OF SUPERINTENDENT CHENEY.

Owing to the great quantity of work which is accumulating in the House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, a special meeting was called last night for the purpose of hearing witnesses for the defense in the pending investigation of Thomas P. Cheney, Superintendent of the railway mail service of New England. Charles Field, of Boston, and W. H. Bigelow, of August, Me., special agents of the Post Office Department; J. E. Larkin, Postmaster at Concord, N. H.; Hon. James F. Briggs, M. C. G. K. Pierce, Postmaster at Portsmouth, N. H., and several others testified at considerable length, to the effect that Superintendent Cheney was greatly improved during his administration; that his reputation was excellent, and that he very often traveled over his several routes, attending to his duties. He was not considered more officious in politics than the average citizen of New Hampshire.

The committee to-day resumed the investigation. Miles G. Bailey, chief clerk of transportation railway mail service, Post Office Department, testified with regard to the leave of absence granted Mr. Stahl, chief clerk in Mr. Cheney's office. He said the leave was granted at the instance of Representative Banks.

E. G. Bidwell, Postmaster, Norwich, Conn., testified that Mr. Cheney bore a good reputation, and thought the gentleman was very efficient in his duties.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1878.

Mr. PADDOCK, (rep. of Neb., from the Committee on Public Lands, submitted a resolution authorizing the committee, in considering the memorial of William McCarrahan, to send for persons and papers, take testimony and to employ a stenographer, the expense to be paid out of the contingent fund of the Senate.

In explanation of the resolution he said this case had given the courts and Congress much trouble. It was now before the Committee on Public Lands, and it was deemed best to take testimony, that an intelligent understanding of the case might be had. The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. DAWES, (rep. of Mass., said a few days ago the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Morrill) gave notice that he would to-day call up the bill in regard to the appointment of a commission to inquire into the alcoholic liquor traffic; that the Senator was too ill to attend the Senate to-day, but he hoped to be here to-morrow and would then call up the bill.

THE LONG BOND BILL.

The Senate to-day resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, being the bill to authorize a long bond for the investment of savings. Several verbal amendments were agreed to.

Mr. COCKRILL, (dem.) of Mo., moved to strike out the words "in coin" in the clause making the bonds redeemable in coin after fifty years from the date of their issue. In support of this amendment he said:—Prior to 1862 the government of the United States had never issued an obligation of any kind which called for payment in coin. He was opposed to using the word coin in the statutes of this country.

Mr. COCKRILL moved to amend the last clause of the section so as to read, "and the said bonds shall be applied to the redemption of outstanding bonds of the United States which are redeemable in the highest rate of interest of such bonds." Agreed to.

Mr. KATON, (rep. of Conn., said he was in favor of the general features of this bill, but he was not in favor of some of its details. It was gravely proposed in this Senate to pay the working man and working woman of this country a salary of \$100,000 a year, and then were now paying the capitalists of Europe who had invested in our bonds. He favored the issue of a bond of \$100,000 a year, but he would have it bear four per cent interest instead of 3.65, and would make the smallest bond \$50 instead of \$25, as proposed by the bill. He thought if the rate of interest fixed four per cent, that the rate of interest on the United States would invest in the bonds. They could do so and still pay five per cent to their depositors, because the rate of interest on the bonds would be raised to five per cent, and therefore could afford to pay five per cent interest to depositors.

Mr. COCKRILL, (rep. of Mo., said he was in favor of the bill. He thought if the rate of interest fixed four per cent, that the rate of interest on the United States would invest in the bonds. They could do so and still pay five per cent to their depositors, because the rate of interest on the bonds would be raised to five per cent, and therefore could afford to pay five per cent interest to depositors.

Mr. KATON said if the honorable Senator (Mr. Cockrill) had introduced the bill, he would have been waiting for his turn on the calendar to purchase the bond he possessed information which he (Mr. Katon) did not possess.

Mr. KATON, (dem.) of Del., said our present four per cent bonds were for thirty years, and he did not think they could be disposed of if a longer bond should be made to bear the same rate of interest. He had talked with men who had made this subject a study, and they all agreed that the thirty year bond could not be disposed of if the fifty year bond bore the same rate of interest.

Mr. BLAINE, (rep. of Me., inquired of the Senator (Mr. Bayard) where that principle stopped. If a fifty year bond should bear 3.65 per cent interest, then a hundred years bond should bear three per cent, and he supposed a thousand years bond should bear one per cent. Mr. BLAINE, (rep. of Me., said he was in favor of the bill. He thought if the rate of interest fixed four per cent, that the rate of interest on the United States would invest in the bonds. They could do so and still pay five per cent to their depositors, because the rate of interest on the bonds would be raised to five per cent, and therefore could afford to pay five per cent interest to depositors.

Mr. KATON said there was now on deposit in the savings bank of this city \$1,200,000,000, and this was a mere matter of \$100,000,000 to absorb such a sum. In his own State of Connecticut the savings banks had nearly \$100,000,000 on deposit.

Mr. WALLACE, (dem.) of Pa., said the bill as it stood would be a full compliance with the recommendations of the Finance Committee, and it had been determined that a fifty year bond would be most desirable. Mr. BLAINE, (rep. of Me., said he was in favor of the bill. He thought if the rate of interest fixed four per cent, that the rate of interest on the United States would invest in the bonds. They could do so and still pay five per cent to their depositors, because the rate of interest on the bonds would be raised to five per cent, and therefore could afford to pay five per cent interest to depositors.

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Mr. KATON, (dem.) of Del., favored the amendment of Mr. Blaine, and said the rate of interest fixed at three per cent. These bonds were all issued in 1862, and the rate of interest was then 3.65 per cent. He thought if the rate of interest fixed four per cent, that the rate of interest on the United States would invest in the bonds. They could do so and still pay five per cent to their depositors, because the rate of interest on the bonds would be raised to five per cent, and therefore could afford to pay five per cent interest to depositors.

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Mr. ALLISON, (rep. of Iowa, also favored the rate of four per cent, and during his remarks he referred to the fact that the rate of interest on the United States bonds was then 3.65 per cent. He thought if the rate of interest fixed four per cent, that the rate of interest on the United States would invest in the bonds. They could do so and still pay five per cent to their depositors, because the rate of interest on the bonds would be raised to five per cent, and therefore could afford to pay five per cent interest to depositors.

Mr. RANDOLPH said he would not enter into a debate upon the bill, which was an old question, but he would say that the rate of interest on the United States bonds was then 3.65 per cent. He thought if the rate of interest fixed four per cent, that the rate of interest on the United States would invest in the bonds. They could do so and still pay five per cent to their depositors, because the rate of interest on the bonds would be raised to five per cent, and therefore could afford to pay five per cent interest to depositors.

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people, importing them to trust him again and that the scenes of 1874 would not be repeated, and on these scenes he was now to-day to assume a very manly and brave position in redeeming the pledged promise of the nation. For myself, said Mr. Garfield, I care not in what way the lands are or in what company they are sold; I want to see the man who is for the money of the constitution and for the faith of the nation. (Applause, generally on the republican side.) Mr. Garfield then said that he could not be so soon in understanding the nature and designs of those who were advocating what they called the American system of finance, but he begged the pardon of the House for delaying an appropriation bill by this long speech, and an sorry particularly that so much of it should be devoted to myself. (Renewed and continuous applause.)

It was some minutes before order was restored and the speaker resumed his seat. Mr. Garfield, congratulating him. Among them was Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, who remarked that the speech was unconstitutional, because it was an act of credit and assumed punishment. Mr. Kelley was not in the Chamber during the delivery of the speech, a circumstance at which Mr. Garfield in speaking expressed his regret, but said the gentleman had full notice of his intent to speak, and had spent two hours to-day in the room of the Committee on Finance, and he would be glad to see him there.

After the committee resumed consideration of the Deficiency bill, Mr. Hooker, of Mississippi, opposed the passage of which was reported, and he introduced a substitute bill for the purpose of raising the rate of interest on the public debt from 3 to 4 per cent. The bill was read by sections for amendment.

Mr. HANNA, (rep. of Ind., moved to increase the number of temporary clerks to be employed by the Senate and the House of Representatives, and to increase the appropriation for such clerks from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

Mr. HANNA, (dem.) of Ohio, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back the bill to reduce the number of clerks in the House of Representatives, and to reduce the cost of its support. Ordered printed and recommitted.

House then, at ten minutes to five o'clock, adjourned.

THE TARIFF BILL.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6, 1878.

At the annual meeting of the Vessel Owners and Captains' Association of Philadelphia to-day a report of a sub-committee was adopted which calls attention to the section of the proposed tariff bill providing for the collection of duties on foreign goods and places under American registers. The report says the enactment of such a law would be prejudicial to our coasting trade and ruinous to our shipping interests.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1878.

Leave of absence for one year and surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to leave the department of Dakota, is granted First Lieutenant John Hamilton, First Infantry.

Leave of absence for six months is granted Captain Frederick Van Vleet, Third Infantry.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE MONARCH AT BANGKOK, SIAM—REPORT FROM THE ASIATIC SQUADRON.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1878.

The Navy Department has received a communication from Commander Sumner, on board the Monarch, at Bangkok, dated January 14, in which he says:—

On the 12th inst. we received a visit from the Regent, with several attendants, whom we received with appropriate honors and courtesies. He made us quite a long and interesting visit, and we were very much pleased to have him on board. He was accompanied by a large number of his courtiers, and we were very much pleased to have him on board.

Everything is quiet here now, and our present Consul has been very successful in restoring confidence and good feeling toward our government, and he is now striving hard to build up American trade and interest here. We have in the past been very much troubled by the Chinese, and we are now striving to build up American trade and interest here.

A despatch from Rear Admiral Patterson, commanding the Asiatic station on board the flagship Tennessee, January 30, reports as follows:—

The Tennessee left Shanghai, January 10, for Hong Kong and arrived at Amoy, China, January 10, and at Hong Kong January 21. The Ashuelot and Palau were at Shanghai. The Ranger was at Amoy, and the Albatross at Hong Kong. The Monarch was at Yokohama.

RAIDS ON ILLICIT DISTILLERIES.

Information has been received from West Virginia, stating that within the last two weeks twenty-four arrests have been made for illicit distilling. The establishments were situated in the mountains, and the distillers were very much alarmed by the raids. The revenue officers who make the raids, as the expense of transportation to a market would be greater than the value of the goods.

Collector Blaine, of the Ninth Kentucky district, has before an alien was running telling that the extensive liquor captured being small they are generally destroyed by the revenue officers who make the raids, as the expense of transportation to a market would be greater than the value of the goods.

My deputy marshals have made a successful raid on moonshiners in Floyd county, securing 110 prisoners and 100 gallons of whisky. The moonshiners were very much alarmed by the raids, and they are now striving to build up American trade and interest here.

The Commissioner has consulted with the Attorney General with a view of employing means for continuing the work of ending illicit distillation in Kentucky.

THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

TO BE HONORARY COMMISSIONERS.

The President to-day appointed L. F. Poland and J. Gregory Smith, of Vermont, and John J. Bagley and Martin Ryerson, of Michigan, to be honorary commissioners to the Paris Exposition.

THE PORTSMOUTH IN PREPARATION.

The United States ship-of-war, Portsmouth, Commander McNair, arrived at the Brooklyn Navy Yard yesterday. Preparations have begun for the enlargement of her hullways, and she will take in cargo at the Port of New York in a day or two. The Portsmouth will sail on the 10th inst., but will not be able to take all of the remaining American exhibits, and another government vessel will have to be assigned.

LARGE FIRE AT PLAINFIELD.

A disastrous conflagration visited Plainfield, N. J., yesterday morning. About midnight a fire was discovered under the steeple of the Wilcox House, an unoccupied building beyond the city proper. The two steam engines quickly reached the place but the fire had gained such headway that it was impossible to check it. The fire was the work of an incendiary, prudently despatched one of the engines to the city, as he feared that more serious work was contemplated by the fire. The fire had gained such headway that it was impossible to check it.

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FIRE AT ELIZABETH, N. J.

At two o'clock yesterday morning the lumber yard of Coddington, McNabb & Co. at Elizabeth, N. J., was burned, having been fired by an incendiary in three places. Loss, \$20,000; insurance, \$10,000. Wallace Vail's barn and feed's staff, adjoining lumber yard, were totally destroyed. Loss, \$4,000.

FIRE IN EAST NEW YORK.

The two-story fire building on Kider street, near Liberty street, East New York, was totally destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. John Doyle, who owned and occupied the structure, estimated his loss at \$1,000; insured in the Stevens Company for \$700. The buildings on either side were slightly damaged. It is supposed the fire